

# STAFFORD COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

## Agenda Consideration

**TOPIC:** Proposed Revisions to Regulation 7-32:  
Code of Student Conduct      **ITEM NO:** 10T

**PREPARED BY:** Jean S. Murray,  
Superintendent      **MEETING:** May 23, 2006

Daryl A. Nelson,  
Executive Director of Administrative & Legal Services      **ACTION DATE:** May 23, 2006

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### **ACTION REQUESTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT:**

That the School Board receive for information proposed revisions to Regulation 7-32, Code of Student Conduct.

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### **KEY POINTS:**

The proposed revisions to Regulation 7-32, Code of Student Conduct, incorporates changes necessitated by law as well as those recommended by the committee of administrators charged with the responsibility of reviewing the conduct code. The committee as a whole is pleased with the code and is of the opinion that it continues to have broad support within the community.

It is suggested that those rules set forth below be revised as described.

Rule 12, which prohibits “dangerous articles”, be expanded to specifically prohibit devices which emit a shock.

Rule 21, which prohibits “electronic devices”, be expanded to prohibit video cameras.

Rule 41, which prohibits “obscene language or gestures”, be expanded to prohibit “mooning” and other indecent exposure.

Rule 42, which prohibits possession of “obscene writings, pictures...”, etc., be expanded to prohibit creating, displaying, possessing and distributing those items and to also specifically prohibit pornographic materials.

Rule 45, which prohibits “controlled substances” and consumption thereof be further defined to prohibit consumption within four hours of coming on to school grounds.

Rule 62, which prohibits “threatening actions”, be expanded to specifically prohibit such being made by an electronic device.

Additionally, throughout Regulation 7-32 the legal references have been revised where appropriate to reflect amendments to the Code of Virginia.

**SCHOOL BOARD GOAL:** (Goal 7) Provide school environments where teachers are safe to teach and students are safe to learn.

**FUNDING SOURCE:** N/A

**AUTHORIZATION REFERENCE:** Bylaw 1-33, Formulation and Approval of Regulations

**STUDENTS****Code of Student Conduct****A. Purpose**

To establish standards of student conduct and enforcement procedures designed to provide that education in the schools be conducted in an atmosphere free of disruption and threat to persons or property and supportive of individual rights.

**B. Rights and Responsibilities of Students**

The chief purpose of the schools is to help students achieve maximum development of individual knowledge, skills, and competence and to help students develop behavior patterns which will enable them to be responsible, contributing members of society. Acceptable behavior is essential to the development of responsible and self-disciplined citizens and to the provision of an effective school program. Positive behavior is based on respect for one's self and for the worth and dignity of others. Development of such positive behavior in students is a dual function of the home and of the school.

Every student has certain rights which must be respected; however, rights are not absolute. Concomitant with every right is a corresponding responsibility. General rules of conduct for students are established to ensure the rights and welfare of all students and are designed to prevent the disruptive few from interfering with the education of all.

1. The rights of all students and the right to an education are and shall be recognized without regard to race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, creed, ability to pay, national origin, disabling condition, or intellectual ability. Students have a right to a public education beginning with kindergarten and extending through grade twelve. Student responsibilities include regular school attendance, conscientious effort in classroom work, conformance to school rules and regulations and the responsibility not to interfere with the education of fellow students or the orderly operation of the school.
2. Students have the right to expect a safe school environment in which to learn and a climate within the school that is conducive to learning. Students have a responsibility to help the school staff in operating a safe school by abiding at all times by the federal, state and county laws and the policies and regulations of the school board and the school. Students have the right to self-defense as set forth in that model student conduct policy developed by the Virginia Board of Education, and, until such policy is developed, the right to self defense consistent with Virginia case law.
3. Students have the right to expect courtesy, fairness, respect, and to be free of sexual harassment from members of the school staff and other students. Students have the responsibility to respect the rights and authority of teachers, students, administrators, and all others involved in the educational process.
4. Students have a right to expect that other students and school personnel will respect their personal property. Students have the responsibility to respect personal property rights of other students, teachers, and administrators as well as the public's property, including school equipment and buildings.
5. Students have a right to participate in required school activities. Students have a responsibility to comply with all rules and regulations for student behavior at all school functions.

6. Students have the right to freedom of expression, to address policies publicly, privately, in writing or orally. Students may advocate change in any law, policy, or regulation. Students have a responsibility to see that expressions do not interfere with the educational program. Students have a responsibility not to use obscene, slanderous, or libelous statements; not to use disruptive tactics; nor to advocate violation of the law or school regulations.

7. Students have the right to complain to school staff regarding decisions made by staff members considered not in the student's best interests. Students have the responsibility to follow the appeal procedures outlined in the Code of Student Conduct.

### **C. Code of Student Conduct**

In accordance with state legal requirements, general rules of student conduct, responsibilities and rights have been developed and published in a handbook, Code of Student Conduct. The handbook is reproduced annually and made available to students, parents, and staff.

### **D. Rules of Conduct**

Acts for which students shall be disciplined, and the range of disciplinary actions which shall be imposed, (including suspension or expulsion) include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. **Absenteeism (including cutting of class), unexcused or excessive;** *Minimum of warning, including parent notification, to maximum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less. Additionally, a truancy matter shall be referred to attendance officer for investigation.*
2. **Accusing another student falsely and intentionally; including falsely accusing another student of a violation of code of conduct;** *Minimum of warning to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
3. **Alcoholic beverages and imitation alcoholic beverages including nonalcoholic beer, possession, delivery, sale, distribution, manufacture, use, or being under the influence of alcohol, whether or not consumed on school grounds; and/or operating a motor vehicle on school property while in possession of or under the influence of alcohol;** *Minimum of long-term suspension for the remainder of the current school year, with the requirement that at least 45 days be served with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*
4. **Arson or attempted arson;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days, but not less, with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent, the Fire Marshall and Sheriff, with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*
5. **Assault and battery or attempted assault;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days, with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*
6. **Bomb threat, or threat of other catastrophic event, by whatever means made, regardless of intent to carry out the threat;** *Minimum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year to a maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*

7. **Bus, disruptive misbehavior on; defiance of bus driver; and/or failure to comply with rules pertaining to conduct on the bus and at the bus stop;** *Minimum of warning to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days from bus and/or school with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
8. **Bus passes, misuse of;** *Minimum of warning to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days from bus and/or school with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
9. **Cheating and/or plagiarism; theft of examinations;** *Minimum of receiving no credit for the work and notifying the parent to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
10. **Computer violations including trespass, fraud, invasion of privacy, and theft of services; unauthorized use of school computer and/or computer network; removal of computer data, programs, software; alteration/destruction/erasure of computer data, programs, software; intentionally causing a computer and/or computer network to malfunction; use or duplication of software in violation of law or licensing requirements; unauthorized access to any portion of computer network, restricted programs and/or computer drives; unauthorized use of assigned computer passwords to gain access to computer and/or network; any unauthorized use of school computer code(s); failure to abide by acceptable use agreement;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days, or less, with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year, **and/or** loss of computer and Internet privileges to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and shall also be reported to the Sheriff if the potential exists for criminal charges to be filed.*
11. **Animals, birds, reptiles, snakes, insects, etc., possession of, except with permission of principal;** *Minimum of warning, including parent notification, to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
12. **Dangerous articles, firearms, pneumatic guns, knives, metal pipes, sharpened implements, clubs, tire irons, laser pens/laser pointers, cigarette lighters, combustibles, paintball pellets, darts, razors, bullets, devices which emit a shock, etc., possession, display, and/or use of; and/or possession of jewelry or chains which present a danger to self or others; prohibition of those items set forth herein is subject to those exceptions set forth in the Code of Virginia;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less, with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and shall also be reported to the Sheriff, with the potential for criminal charges being filed, if the possession or use is of an item prohibited by Virginia Code. Use or possession of a weapon as defined by the Virginia Code Sections 22.1-277.07, 22.1-277.07:1, 18.2-308, and 18.2-308.1, subject to those exceptions set forth in the law, shall require a hearing before the Superintendent, or his designee, and may require a hearing before the Stafford County School Board, which shall consider the matter for expulsion of not less than one calendar year unless the board, or the Superintendent or his designee, shall determine that based on the facts of a particular situation that special circumstances exist and no disciplinary action or another disciplinary action or another term of expulsion is appropriate.*
13. **Defacing, vandalizing and/or destruction of school property or property of another (includes writing on walls, etc.);** *Minimum of detention with the balance of any days to be*

*served as the result of suspension carrying over to the succeeding school year to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter may be reported to the Superintendent and/or Sheriff. Restitution for repairs may be sought.*

14. **Detention, failure to report to;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-20 days.*
15. **Detention, refusal of;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
16. **Dice shooting (whether or not gambling);** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
17. **Disobedience of administrator, teacher, other staff member, chaperone or law enforcement official;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
18. **Disrespectful behavior toward administrator, teacher, other staff member, chaperone, law enforcement official, or other persons including students;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
19. **Disruption of school, including disruption of class, testing, study, activity and/or instruction;** *Minimum of warning with the balance of any days to be served as a result of suspension carrying over to the succeeding school year to maximum of expulsion.*
20. **Dress code, violation of;** *Minimum of being required to change attire or being sent home to maximum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less.*
21. **Electronic devices, including CD players, hand-held electronic games, cassette players, headphones, boom boxes, video cameras, etc. possession and/or use of;** *Minimum of warning, including parent notification, to maximum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less.*
22. **Extortion or attempted extortion, and/or intimidation;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less, with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year to maximum of expulsion.*
23. **Failure to pick up trash or return tray in cafeteria; littering of school property;** *Minimum of warning to maximum of short-term suspension of 3 days or less.*
24. **Failure to report to office as directed;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
25. **Fighting, pushing, shoving, other inappropriate physical contact, and/or physical confrontation; instigating or promoting that conduct set forth herein; and/or verbal confrontation which is likely or intended to cause a physical confrontation;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less, with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and may be reported to the Sheriff.*
26. **Fire alarm and/or fire extinguisher activation without just cause; false alarm including calling 9-1-1, school officials, law enforcement, fire department, or any person, to**

- falsely indicate an emergency of any nature;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less, with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent, Fire Marshall and Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*
27. **Fireworks or other explosives including gunpowder, black powder, chemicals and materials which may be combined to manufacture such item, combustibles, possession, distribution, manufacture, use or lighting of;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less, with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent, Fire Marshall and Sheriff with the potential for charges being filed. Use or possession of an explosive or destructive device as defined in Va. Code, Sections 22.1-277.07, 22.1-277.07:1, 18.2-308, and 18.2-308.1, shall require a hearing before the Superintendent, or his designee, and may require a hearing before the Stafford County School Board, which shall consider the matter for expulsion of not less than one calendar year unless the board, or the Superintendent or his designee, shall determine that based on the facts of a particular situation that special circumstances exist and no disciplinary action or another disciplinary action or another term of expulsion is appropriate.*
28. **Forgery of notes or passes, report cards, currency, etc., including passing, presentation, and uttering of such items;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
29. **Gambling, and/or promotion of gambling;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
30. **Gang activity, including but not limited to wearing or other display of gang colors, emblems, symbols, etc., including tattoos on hand or body; solicitation, initiation and/or hazing of any person; meeting and/or conspiring for purpose of planning or carrying out any illegal activity; intimidation, threat and/or extortion of any person; carrying out at the direction of a gang or gang member, or in association with another gang member, any activity in violation of law or of the Student Code of Conduct; defacing of school or personal property with gang graffiti and/or colors;** *Minimum of warning with the balance of any days to be served as the result of suspension carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*
31. **Harassment, and/or hazing, by any means whatsoever, including via electronic media;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year. VA Code §18.2-56 provides that it is unlawful to haze so as to cause bodily injury to any student at any school, and further provides in the case of conviction of such offense as a Class 1 misdemeanor that a penalty be imposed of confinement in jail for not more than 12 months and a fine of not more than \$2500.00, either or both.*
32. **Horseplay, including rowdy, rough, or disorderly conduct and, running in the halls; and/or driving on school property in an unsafe manner;** *Minimum of warning to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*

33. **Leaving class or other area without administrator's, teacher's or other staff member's permission;** *Minimum of detention to maximum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less.*
34. **Leaving school grounds without proper authorization;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
35. **Loitering on school property, including halls, restrooms, and parking lots;** *Minimum of warning to maximum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less.*
36. **Loitering in or about vehicles in school parking lots or on streets;** *Minimum of warning to maximum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less.*
37. **Lying/falsehood;** *Minimum of warning to maximum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less.*
38. **Mace, pepper spray, or like substance, possession and/or use of;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
39. **Misuse of school property or property of others;** *Minimum of detention to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding year. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*
40. **Molesting others;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and to the Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*
41. **Obscene language or gestures, including "mooning" and/or other indecent exposure, use of;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and may be reported to the Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*
42. **Obscene writings, pictures, or articles; pornographic materials; including creating, displaying, possessing, and/or distribution of such items; or possession of;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
43. **Pager, cellular phone, PDA, or like device, use or display of in the school building or on school grounds during the school day or any use or display at any time while on a school bus; "use" shall be defined as the device being turned on or otherwise activated whether or not sending or receiving a call, message, or other communication, or using any feature of the device including but not limited to games, camera, instant text messaging, etc.; "display" shall be defined as possession in such manner that any portion of said device is visible to others; "school day" shall for purposes of this rule include extended instructional time as determined by the principal;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to a maximum of expulsion.*
44. **Participating in and/or instigating a riot;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days but not less, with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and the Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*

45. **Possessing, consuming, using, distributing, intending to sell, selling, manufacturing, giving, attempting to sell, or being under the influence of a controlled substance other than an alcoholic beverage whether or not the substance shall have been consumed on school grounds, including anabolic steroids, an imitation controlled substance and other lookalikes (placebos), marijuana, illegal drugs, intoxicants other than an alcoholic beverage, inhalant intoxicants; possessing, distributing, intending to sell, selling, or attempting to sell drug paraphernalia on school property, including the parking lot, on the bus, at the bus stop, or while engaged in or attending any school activity or in any manner so as to endanger the well-being of students or staff or any other type of substance abuse; consuming a controlled substance within four hours prior to coming on to school grounds whether or not under the influence of that substance; soliciting the possession, sale, or distribution, of a controlled substance, lookalike, drug paraphernalia, or other prohibited item set forth herein; and/or operating a motor vehicle on school property while in possession of or under the influence of a controlled substance;** *Minimum of long-term suspension for the remainder of the current school year, with the requirement that at least 45 days be served with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year to maximum of expulsion. A hearing before the Superintendent, or his designee, shall be required. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed. A hearing before the Stafford County School Board for consideration of expulsion shall be required as to any student determined by the Superintendent, or his designee, to have brought a controlled substance, imitation controlled substance, or marijuana onto school property or to a school sponsored activity unless the Superintendent or his designee shall have determined that special circumstances exist and a disciplinary action other than expulsion is appropriate. In compliance with Va. Code Section 22.1-277.08 the Stafford County School Board shall expel from school attendance any student whom the board determines has brought a controlled substance, imitation controlled substance, or marijuana onto school property or to a school-sponsored activity, unless the board or the Superintendent or his designee, shall determine, based on the facts of the particular case, that special circumstances exist and another disciplinary action is appropriate.*
46. **Possession, consumption, use, distribution, attempted distribution of prescription medications, over-the-counter, non-prescription medications, supplements, and/or look-alikes; and/or soliciting the possession, sale, or distribution of any item set forth herein;** *Minimum of warning, including parent notification with the balance of any days to be served as the result of suspension carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and may be reported to the Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*
47. **Profane or abusive language, use of;** *Minimum of detention, with the balance of any days to be served as the result of suspension carrying over to the succeeding school year to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and may be reported to the Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*
48. **Publication and/or distribution of unauthorized materials including newspapers, letters, flyers and posters, e-mail, or other medium;** *Minimum of warning to maximum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less.*
49. **Refusal to follow directions of administrator, teacher other staff member, chaperone, or law enforcement official;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of long-term suspension for the remainder of the current school year.*



50. **Refusal to identify oneself properly;** *Minimum of warning to maximum of long-term suspension for the remainder of the current school year.*
51. **Removal of food from cafeteria;** *Minimum of warning to maximum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less.*
52. **Rude behavior to others;** *Minimum of warning to maximum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less.*
53. **School campus traffic offenses, including, but not limited to, unsafe operation of a vehicle; and/or failure to obey those rules necessary to obtain a school parking sticker;** *Minimum of warning to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year.*
54. **Sexual harassment, including, but not limited to making unwanted sexual advances, engaging in unwanted and inappropriate physical touching, making requests for sexual favors, making sexually derogatory remarks, and/or engaging in other verbal or physical conduct which is inappropriate, unsolicited, and/or offensive;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less, with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and shall be reported to the Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed if the act is believed to be criminal.*
55. **Sexual offenses, including inappropriate public display of affection, consensual sex, indecent exposure, rape, attempted rape, nonconsensual physical contact, proposition to engage in a sexual act, inappropriate physical touching whether consensual or nonconsensual;** *Minimum of warning, with the balance of any days to be served as the result of suspension carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and shall be reported to the Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed if the act is believed to be criminal.*
56. **Smoking or using tobacco; and the possession of any tobacco product regardless of age of student;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of long-term suspension for the remainder of the current school year. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and to the Sheriff.*
57. **Sleeping in class;** *Minimum of warning to maximum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less.*
58. **Tardiness, unexcused or excessive;** *Minimum of warning to maximum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less.*
59. **Trespassing on school property, including the parking lot; including trespass by students while suspended or expelled;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of long-term suspension of 11-180 days with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*
60. **Theft, attempted theft, robbery, attempted robbery, possession of and/or receiving stolen property;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less with the balance of any days to be served as the result of suspension carrying over to the succeeding school year to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*

61. **Threatening bodily harm or property damage, regardless of intent to actually harm or damage any person or property;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less with the balance of any days to be served as the result of suspension carrying over to the succeeding school year to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*
62. **Threatening actions, conduct, language and/or gestures, regardless of intent to actually harm or damage any person or property, including, but not limited to, bullying, stalking, and/or other intimidation including via electronic media;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed. Pursuant to VA Code §22.1-279.3:1, except as may be prohibited by federal law, regulation, or jurisprudence, principals shall report incidents of stalking to the parents of the minor student who is the target.*
63. **Truancy from school;** *Minimum of warning including parent notification, to maximum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less. Additionally, the matter shall be referred to attendance officer for investigation.*
64. **Unauthorized entry into restricted areas;** *Minimum of detention to maximum of long-term suspension for remainder of current school year.*
65. **Use, display, or possession of any firearm, pneumatic gun, knife, other weapon, whether armed or disarmed, or lookalike, on or near school property, including the parking lot, on the bus, at the bus stop, or while engaged in or attending any school activity unless part of the curriculum, including the use or possession of explosives or destructive devices. Weapons include, but are not limited to, any gun or object designed to propel a missile of any kind including bows, any knife having a blade of three inches or longer, any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade, ballistic knife, razor, slingshot, spring stick, metal knucks, blackjack, any stun weapon or taser; any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts that can be swung freely (such as a nunchuck or fighting chain); any object with points or pointed blades; any imitation weapon or lookalike, including, but not limited to toy guns, etc.; or any object (including imitation or lookalike) used with the intent of threatening or harming an individual; prohibition of those items set forth herein is subject to those exceptions set forth in the Code of Virginia;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less, with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and shall be reported to the Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed. Use or possession of a weapon as defined by the Virginia Code, Sections 22.1-277.07, 22.1-277.07:1, 18.2-308, subject to those exceptions set forth in the law, and 18.2-308.1, shall require a hearing before the Superintendent, or his designee, and may require a hearing before the Stafford County School Board. In compliance with Va. Code Section 22.1-277.07 and the federal "Gun Free Schools Act of 1994" the Stafford County School Board shall expel from school attendance for not less than one calendar year any student whom the board determines has brought onto school property or to any school-sponsored activity, a firearm or other weapon as defined by the Va. Code, Sections 22.1-277.07, 22.1-277.07:1, 18.2-308, and 18.2-308.1, subject to those exceptions set forth in the law, unless the board, or the Superintendent or his designee, shall determine based on the facts of a particular situation, that special circumstances exist and no disciplinary action or another disciplinary action or another term of expulsion is appropriate.*

66. **Verbal abuse/cursing including, but not limited to, abuse or harassment based upon race, creed, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or which is intended to or likely will incite a physical confrontation;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less, with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*
67. **Violence, acts of;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less, with the balance of any days to be served carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*
68. **Walkouts;** *Minimum of short-term suspension of 10 days or less to long-term suspension for the remainder of the current school year. Additionally, the matter shall be reported to the Superintendent and Sheriff.*
69. **Any violation of this handbook, including a continued disregard of the Student Code of Conduct, or the policies and regulations of the school board, or local, state or federal law;** *Minimum of warning, with the balance of any days to be served as the result of suspension carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter may be reported to the Superintendent and Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed; and*
70. **Any other conduct considered by principal to be disruptive, disrespectful, threatening, and/or presenting an immediate danger to the welfare, health, and safety of any person;** *Minimum of warning, with the balance of any days to be served as the result of suspension carrying over to the succeeding school year, to maximum of expulsion. Additionally, the matter may be reported to the Superintendent and Sheriff with the potential for criminal charges being filed.*

Principals are required to report students to the superintendent for the following offenses:

1. Any attempted or actual physical injury, including “unlawful woundings,” maimings, and homicides, other than involuntary manslaughter, committed by a student on school personnel;
2. The assault, assault and battery, sexual assault, death, shooting, stabbing, cutting, or wounding of any person on a school bus, at the bus stop, on school property, including the parking lot, or at a school-sponsored activity;
3. Any conduct involving alcohol, marijuana, a controlled substance, imitation controlled substance, or an anabolic steroid on a school bus, at the bus stop, on school property, including the parking lot, or at a school-sponsored activity;
4. Any threats against school personnel while on a school bus, at the bus stop, on school property, including the parking lot, or at a school-sponsored activity;
5. The illegal carrying of a firearm (including those defined in Sections 22.1-277.07, 22.1-277.07:1, 18.2-308, and 18.2-308.1 of the Virginia Code) onto school property, including the parking lot, onto the bus, or to the bus stop;
6. Arson or attempted arson;
7. Destruction or damaging of school property or property of another;
8. Extortion or attempted extortion, harassment, and intimidation;
9. Fireworks or other explosives;

10. Immorality;
11. Participating in a riot;
12. Theft;
13. Gang activity;
14. Use or possession of any object (including imitation or lookalike) used with the intent of threatening or harming an individual.

The principal and/or designee shall report to local law enforcement officials all incidents occurring on school property, including the parking lot, on the school bus, and at the bus stop involving:

1. Any attempted or actual physical injury, including “unlawful woundings,” maimings, and homicides, other than involuntary manslaughter, committed by a student on school personnel;
2. The assault, assault and battery, sexual assault, death, shooting, stabbing, cutting, or wounding of any person on a school bus, at the bus stop, on school property, including the parking lot, or at a school-sponsored activity;
3. Any conduct involving alcohol, marijuana, a controlled substance, imitation controlled substance, or an anabolic steroid on a school bus, at the bus stop, on school property, including the parking lot, or at a school-sponsored activity;
4. Any threats against school personnel while on a school bus, on school property, at the bus stop, including the parking lot, or at a school-sponsored activity;
5. The illegal carrying of a firearm (including those defined in Sections 22.1-277.07, 22.1-277.07:1, 18.2-308, and 18.2-308.1 of the Virginia Code) onto school property, including the parking lot, onto the bus, or to the bus stop;
6. Possession and/or use of tobacco and smokeless tobacco products by students under the age of 18;
7. Bomb threats;
8. Extortion;
9. Possession of weapons;
10. Property crimes (arson, burglary, theft, vandalism);
11. Robbery;
12. Runaways;
13. Sex offenses (indecent exposure, obscene phone calls, rape, sodomy, and child molestation);
14. Threats to do bodily harm;
15. Trespassing;
16. Use of abusive or profane language.

The principal and/or designee shall notify the parent of any student involved in the following incidents regardless of whether disciplinary action is taken against each student or the nature of the disciplinary action. Such notice shall only relate to the relevant student’s involvement and shall not include information concerning other students:

1. Any attempted or actual physical injury, including “unlawful woundings,” maimings, and homicides, other than involuntary manslaughter, committed by a student on school personnel;

2. The assault, assault and battery, sexual assault, death, shooting, stabbing, cutting, or wounding of any person on a school bus, at the bus stop, on school property, including the parking lot, or at a school-sponsored activity;
3. Any conduct involving alcohol, marijuana, a controlled substance, imitation controlled substance, or an anabolic steroid on a school bus, at the bus stop, on school property, including the parking lot, or at a school-sponsored activity;
4. Any threats against school personnel while on a school bus, at the bus stop, on school property, including the parking lot, or at a school-sponsored activity;
5. The illegal carrying of a firearm onto school property, including the parking lot, onto the school bus, or to the bus stop.

A violation of school rules may result in (a) a conference with the student, (b) notification of parents, and (c) appropriate disciplinary action that could include suspension or expulsion. In compliance with the federal Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 (Part F-"Gun Free Schools Act of 1994"), the Stafford County School Board shall expel from school attendance for not less than one year any student whom the school board has determined, in accordance with the procedures set forth in Code of Virginia Section 22.1-277, to have brought a firearm or other weapon as defined by Code of Virginia Sections 22.1-277.07, 22.1-277.07:1, 18.2-308, and 18.2-308.1 onto school property, including the parking lot, school bus, bus stop, or to a school-sponsored activity unless the Stafford County School Board, or the Superintendent or his designee, shall determine, based on the facts of a particular situation, that special circumstances exist and no disciplinary action or another disciplinary action or another term of expulsion is appropriate.

#### Editor's Note

See also school board policy #7-32.

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